G. H. S. 59]

(16) 1

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

190 7-08
(Secret)

File No. 35 / 07-08

Serial Nos. 1+2

Papers Filed.

Month August

SUBJECT.

Exchange Numismatic Medals between the Durbar & the Govt

PREVIOUS REFERENCES.	LATER REFERENCES.
	Fin. 28-2063
	[redacted]
	G.M. 295-08-1-36
	38-06-1
	Fin. 16-09 Sec. 1+2
	" 33-10/1+
	" [redacted] 111 of 1911-12
	" 100-12-1-2
	" 287-12-2

GPB—8,000—5-4-07

G.R.S. 11] 1907-08

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT

(Gen. mis.)

NOTES.

G. M. File. No. 35

FILE HEADING.

Exchange of numismatic ~~coins &~~ Collections between the Government of India and the Darbar -

From The First Assistant Resident

No. 4690 Dated 10 July 07 Received 11-7-07.

Diary No. 186	Enclos. 1	Spare Copies.	Serial No. 1

BRIEF ABSTRACT OF LETTER.

Invites the cooperation of the Darbar in the matter of exchange of numismatic Collection between the Govt. of India and the Durbar and requests to be favored with the views of the Durbar on the Suggestions mentioned therein

NOTES AND ORDERS.

The volume of the Mysore Gazette containing Treasure Trove rules is herewith put up for reference - submitted for orders.

VS. 16-7-07.

NOTES—First sheet.

GPB—30,000—20-3-06.

G.R.S. 12]
General and Revenue Secretariat.

G. M. File No. 35 of 1907-8

Serial No.

D. 186

The arrangement proposed by the Residency viz to send coins for examination to persons selected by the Director General of Archaeology and to present duplicates to recognized museums, after the reservation of specimens for ~~our~~ our use, and ~~to receive~~, in return, to receive copies of advertisements and such of the surplus coins as may be selected by us — may be agreed to.

The Rules in force in the Provinces as regards treasure trove do not provide for the acquisition of treasure in the manner done by the Indian Treasure Trove Act (vide Sec 16) - Without such a provision, any arrangement for the exchange of coins ~~would~~ will be useless as we cannot acquire any coins and much less send them - A draft Regulation on the lines of the Indian Treasure Trove Act is said to have been prepared. It may as early as possible ~~placed~~ be placed before the Legislative Council -

Note—Contn. sheet

(Sd) 25.7.07

G.P.B—10,000—18-1-07.

G.R.S. 12]
General and Revenue Secretariat.

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G. M File No. 35 of 1907-8.

180

Serial No.

(1) Will the Office put up all the earlier refes bearing on the question. Communications appear to have been received from time to time from the Resr & ~~to have been~~ orders issued communicated to Comptr & for guidance.

(2) I should like to know whether the want of provision in the rules for the acquisition of coins on behalf of Govt has not been previously noticed. Please also refer to file re introduction of a Treasure trove Regn.

Rec'd. 31.7 — 30/7

Submitted

(1). Gen. F. 55 of 1902-3 and Gen. Mis. 22 of 1905-06, (Sls 1-4), the only references available are herewith submitted.

To Branch III for (2).

V.S. 31-7-07

(2) a Copy of the select papers printed on the subject of the Laws relating to Treasure Trove, with a Copy of the draft Treasure Trove Regulation is submitted herewith. ~~No draft Regulation makes provision~~

J Mis 14 2.8

NOTE—Contn. sheet

G. S. 12]
General and Revenue Secretariat.

F.M. File No. 37 of 190) -08

D. 186

Serial No.

Provision has been made in the draft Regulation to meet cases of the kind. vide sec 17. The file has been submitted for orders. The want of a provision in the rule does not seem to have been felt.

to Branch V.)

Submitted
VS
6-8-07.

Submitted to the Secretary.
6.8.07.

Put up draft to Resr. to say that the suggestions will be adopted, ~~that the present Treasure Trove~~ etc

13/8

Draft submitted to the Secy.
VS.
14-8-07
15

15.8.07.

Issue etc
VP

24-8.

2 To the F.A. Resident.
No. Pol. 185 Dt. 26-8-07)
Informs that the Durbar agree to adopt the suggestions of the Govt. of India re the exchange numismatic specimens referred to in Sl. 1 above

NOTE—Contn. sheet

Vy117

G. 4690

D. 186

FROM

F. P. RENNIE, ESQ., I. C. S.,
FIRST ASSISTANT TO THE RESIDENT IN MYSORE.

G.M. 35-07-1

To

The Dewan of Mysore.

Dated Bangalore, 10th July 1907

SIR,

With reference to the correspondence ending with this office letter No.2669 dated 3rd May 1906, I am directed to forward, for information, a copy of a Resolution by the Government of India in the Home Department Nos.899-903, dated the 30th March 1907, consideering consolidating and amending the instructions which have been issued since 1864 as to the procedure to be followed in dealing with cases of treasure trove consisting of coins and to invite, if there is no objection, the cooperation of the Durbar in the matter.

2. The Government of India think that the Durbar might be glad to send coins for examination to persons selected by the the Director General of Archaeology and would perhaps be willing, after the reservation of specimens for their own use, to present duplicates to the recognized museums referred to in paragraph 4 of the Resolution. In return copies of the advertisements mentioned in paragraph 6 would be sent to the Durbar if desired and surplus coins selected would be presented to them

The

7

The Resident would be glad to be favoured at an early date with the views of the Durbar on these suggestions.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

J. P. Rennie

First Assistant Resident.

NNM

No. 889–903

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

HOME DEPARTMENT.

PUBLIC.

Calcutta, the 30 March 1907.

RESOLUTION.

READ—

Resolution no. $\frac{46}{1668-82}$, dated the 9th October 1884.

Circular letter nos. 2193—2202, dated the 29th June 1905, to various local Governments and their replies.

THE resolution quoted above contains some general instructions for the procedure to be adopted in dealing with cases of treasure trove consisting of coins. Since it was issued a few modifications have been made from time to time, and it was recently brought to the notice of the Government of India that the procedure followed by the different local Governments and Administrations was by no means uniform. Reports have now been received showing the systems in force, and the experience of more than twenty years points to the expediency of consolidating and amending the instructions issued in 1884, and succeeding years.

2. Among the questions which arise the three most important are—

(1) the skilled examination of coins;

(2) the selection and distribution of specimens; and

(3) the disposal of the surplus.

Before considering the first of these it may be noted that the orders of 1884 laid down that *all* coins found as treasure trove should ***invariably*** be acquired. The necessity for this direction was subsequently questioned and by Resolution no. $\frac{1}{13-27}$, dated January 5th, 1885, it was laid down that while this practice should ordinarily be continued it need not be followed in exceptional cases where large numbers of worthless specimens were concerned. From the reports now received it appears that such cases are more frequent than was supposed. It is therefore desirable that full discretion should be allowed by the rules in all cases, subject to the condition that it will be exercised after the examination by experts referred to in the next paragraph.

3. According to the instructions as modified from time to time, coins found in the Madras Presidency are examined by the authorities of the Madras Museum, those found in the Bombay Presidency are dealt with by the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, those found in Burma are sent to the Superintendent, Indian Museum, and all other cases of treasure trove are referred to the Asiatic Society of Bengal. As the Superintendent of the Indian Museum generally has no knowledge of numismatics, the few coins sent up from Burma have, in practice, been dealt with by the Asiatic Society of Bengal, which is thus supposed to be responsible for examining and reporting on all coins found in India, except cases from the Madras and Bombay Presidencies. The Numismatic Secretary of this Society reports that in 1905 he examined about 9,000 coins, and from the information before it the Government of India has reason to believe that the task imposed on the Society is excessive, and has sometimes led to delay. It would also appear that sufficient importance has hitherto not been attached to the preparation of a detailed record of the origin, surroundings and exact nature of each find. Such a record may be of value for two reasons. It may throw light on the history of the place of discovery or it may give a clue to the attribution and arrangement of different series of

coins about which little can be gathered from the inscriptions or devices on the coins themselves. While a single find is often of little value *per se*, the cumulative evidence of a series of careful records may lead to conclusions of the highest importance. To make these records easily accessible it is desirable that they should be prepared on uniform lines. Forms, which have been found suitable after the experience of a number of years, are attached to this resolution, and the Government of India desire that they may be adopted. The preparation of such reports in all cases adds to the responsibility and labour of the expert who examines coins, and thus increases the disadvantages of unduly centralising this work. The Governments of the United Provinces and the North-West Frontier Province have already been able to make arrangements independently of the Asiatic Society of Bengal for the examination of coins found within their jurisdiction. The field of Indian Numismatics is so large that the co-operation of a number of workers is essential, if the work is to be done satisfactorily, while it has been found that the development of local interest through the association of a number of numismatists in the examination of treasure trove has also led to the improvement of provincial coin cabinets in other ways. The Director-General of Archæology will be asked to maintain a list of numismatists who are willing to undertake the examination of coins, and local Governments which desire to make any changes in the existing method of obtaining reports on coins are requested to communicate with him. A brief summary of the results of each year should be prepared in each province. It should show the total number of coins dealt with in the year, classifying them by metal, and also roughly by the series to which they belong. The details of the classfication will of course vary in each province, but a suitable form for Northern India will be found in paragraph 10 (II) of the Lucknow Museum Report for 1904-05. Another table should show the number of the coins distributed, and it will be convenient to give a short account of any notable finds, detailed publication being reserved for the regular scientific journals. The reports may be published in any annual report which local Governments desire, but copies in manuscript should be sent to the Director-General of Archæology who will arrange for the preparation of a summary to appear in his annual report.

4. When the coins have been examined and described it is necessary to consider the order in which specimens acquired should be distributed. The orders of 1884, as modified to date, prescribe that if a single specimen is available it should be presented to the Indian Museum, while if more specimens are found, they should be supplied to (1) the Asiatic Society of the Presidency in which the coins were found, (2) the other Asiatic Society (or the Phayre Museum, Rangoon, in the case of coins found in Burma), (3) the Madras Museum, (4) the Indian Museum, (5) the British Museum, (6) the Lahore Museum, (7) the Nagpur Museum, (8) the Lucknow Museum, (9) the Public Library, Shillong, and (10) the Archæological Museum, Poona. After a careful review of the circumstances the Government of India are of opinion that the order of the distribution should be changed. It has been urged that first choice should invariably be given to the Indian Museum, on the ground that the convenience of students is best served by bringing all coins together in a single institution. So far as the study of numismatics from published catalogues is concerned, it may be observed that the collection in the Indian Museum is in some respects less complete than those in other parts of India and markedly inferior to cabinets in Europe. If the study of actual coins is considered, the question of distance arises, and it is probable that students in Southern India or the Punjab, for example, would visit Madras or Lahore rather than Calcutta. But apart from these considerations more importance must be attached to the desirability of encouraging local interest. Treasure trove is not the only source from which the Provincial collections have been enriched, and on this ground alone the Government of India hold that the first choice should be given to the chief museum officially recognised in the province where treasure trove is found, and the second choice to the Indian Museum. They also think that public collections should take precedence of those of the two Asiatic Societies, and that Indian institutions should be supplied before the British Museum. The Government of India have likewise considered the principles which should govern the distribution of coins where more than two specimens are found, and

they are inclined to think that the simplest procedure is to lay down a fixed order, which has been drawn up on a consideration of the existing circumstances of the various institutions. They therefore desire that the following order may be observed :—

1. The principal Museum in the province in which the treasure is found.
2. The Indian Museum.
3. The Madras Museum.
4. The Provincial Museum, Lucknow.
5. The Lahore Museum.
6. The Nagpur Museum.
7. The Public Library, Shillong.
8. ~~The Archæological Museum, Poona.~~
9. The Peshawar Museum.
10. The Quetta Museum.
11. The Ajmer Museum.
12. The Rangoon Museum.
13. Asiatic Society, Bengal.
14. Bombay Branch, Royal Asiatic Society.
15. The British Museum.
16. The Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge.

17. From the reports received it is noticed that some local Governments have presented specimens to more than one institution within their jurisdiction. The Government of India do not object to this, but they request that for purposes of distribution precedence may be given to the fifteen cabinets named above.

5. It is obviously unnecessary to present coins to an institution, which already possesses exactly similar specimens. To facilitate the selection and to avoid the accumulation of duplicates it is desirable that, wherever possible, complete catalogues of the existing collections should be published, or if these cannot be arranged for, hand-lists might be printed giving such details of the coins in each cabinet, that they can be recognised.

6. Under the instructions now in force coins which have been acquired, but are not required for presentation, are disposed of at the mints at Bombay and Calcutta at their numismatic value as stated by the experts who have examined them. Owing to the practice under which finds of coins were acquired before they had been examined, the result has been that a very large proportion were absolutely unsaleable and have had to be melted down. Paragraph 2 of this resolution directs that the practice of indiscriminate acquisition should be discontinued. When a find of coins contains more specimens of a single variety than are required for the purpose of presenting one to each cabinet on the list which requires it, the expert dealing with the case should use his discretion in recommending the acquisition of the whole or part of the remainder for sale at their numismatic value. Surplus coins carefully selected in this manner have been readily disposed of in one province, where they are offered for sale at the art depôt in the local museum, and the local Governments should consider whether they can make similar arrangements. Lists of the coins available should be advertised from time to time in the local gazette, and copies should be sent to any numismatists who register their names, as has been the practice hitherto at the mints. It has been usual in some places to allow the decipherer of the coins to retain a specimen when duplicates were available, and the Government of India approve of this with some reservations. No official who is entrusted with the examination of coins as part of his ordinary duties should receive this concession. Coins should only be retained where specimens remain over after all cabinets on the list have been supplied and only one specimen should be kept of each variety. Local Governments will satisfy themselves by calling for such details as they think necessary that the privilege is not abused.

7. Under section 19 of the Indian Treasure Trove Act (VI of 1878) the power of making rules to regulate proceedings under the Act is vested in the local Governments. The Government of India desire that the rules now in force may be examined and modified, where necessary, in accordance with the preceding paragraphs. Copies of the revised rules should be forwarded to the Home Department of the Government of India and the Director-General of Archæology for record. While the rules are under consideration the

procedure followed in reporting finds of coins and in distributing them should also be examined. It is noticed that the details vary considerably in different Provinces, and while absolute uniformity is not desired, the need for simplification as far as possible is obvious. The procedure followed in one Province is described in an appendix to this resolution, and appears suitable, though it is open to doubt whether the intervention of the Commissioner is necessary. It is probably sufficient that correspondence should be confined to the district officer, who reports finds, the expert who examines them and the local Government which sanctions the acquisition and distribution. In some provinces the examination by experts is postponed till acquisition is complete. Owing to the modifications in procedure indicated in paragraph 2, it will now be necessary to have the coins examined as soon as possible after they reach the Collector of the district.

ORDER—Ordered that a copy of this Resolution and appendices be forwarded to all local Governments and Administrations for information and guidance, to the Director-General of Archæology and the Finance Department and the Department of Commerce and Industry for information and to the Foreign Department for information and communication to Political Officers.

H. H. RISLEY,
Secretary to the Government of India.

The procedure followed under these rules takes the following form. The coin committee selects its own secretary, the nomination being submitted to Government for approval. District officers report all cases of treasure trove consisting of coins not of British mintage through Commissioners to Government, and at the same time send specimens of the coins or the whole find direct to Government (Financial Department). The file in original and the coins are sent [by Government] to the secretary to the coin committee, who may correspond direct with collectors if he desires to see the whole of the coins. The secretary then prepares a detailed description of the coins, and frames proposals for acquiring and distributing them, which are circulated to the other members of the committee for their remarks. Printed forms are used for this purpose, copies of which are enclosed. On the return of the proposals the secretary places in the file a short report which gives a very brief description of the coins, the intrinsic value of those which the committee think should be acquired, and the number to be presented to each institution. The secretary at the same time returns the coins arranged in the manner proposed for distribution, and the coins are actually distributed by Government. As the secretary has always been an official and has little correspondence, no extra establishment was required, and postal charges have been met from his office grant.

Report no.____of____on_____coins found at _____, district _____, received with $\frac{\text{G. O.}}{\text{Collector's}}$ *no._____, dated___*

[This form is used for Mughal coins only.]

Number and metal.	Name of king.	Mint.	Type.	Year.		Month	To be acquired for—													
				Regnal or Ilahi.	Hijri.		The principal Museum of the province in which the treasure is found.	The Indian Museum, Calcutta.	The Madras Museum.	The Provincial Museum, Lucknow.	The Lahore Museum.	The Nagpur Museum.	The Public Library, Shillong.	The Archæological Museum, Poona.	The Peshawar Museum.	The Quetta Museum	The Ajmer Museum.	The Rangoon Museum.	Asiatic Society, Bengal.	Bombay Branch, Royal Asiatic Society.	The Britis Muse

*Report no.*____ *of*____ *on*_____ *coins found at* _____, *district* _____; *received with* $\frac{\text{G. O.}}{\text{Collector's}}$ *no.*_____, *dated* _____.

[This form is used for all classes of coins but the Mughal series.]

Number and metal.	Obverse.	Reverse.	References and remarks.	*To be acquired for*—																
				The principal Museum of the province in which the treasure is found.	The Indian Museum, Calcutta.	The Madras Museum.	The provincial Museum, Lucknow.	The Lahore Museum.	The Nagpur Museum.	The Public Library, Shillong.	The Archæological Museum, Poona.	The Peshawar Museum.	The Quetta Museum.	The Ajmer Museum.	The Rangoon Museum.	Asiatic Society, Bengal.	Bombay Branch, Royal Asiatic Society.	The British Museum.	For sale at

G. I. C. P. O.—No. 3646 H. D.—27-3-07—570—G. C. S.

I.R.S. 26]

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G. M. File No. 35
of 1907-08 Serial No. 2

Diary No. of letter replied to 186

Pol. No. 185

General and Revenue Secretariat
(August)
, the 26 July 1907

Date of issue 26-8-07

Signed by
Mr. C.S. Balasundaramiyer

To The F. A. Resident
in Mysore

Sir,

With reference to your letter no. 4690 of 10th July 1907 re: the exchange of numismatic ~~Collections~~ specimens between the Govt. of India and the Durbar and inviting the views of the Durbar on ~~the~~ the suggestions ~~mentioned~~ made therein, I am directed to state that the Durbar ~~fully concur with~~ are agreeable to the suggestions

over.

+ reply from the Resident - please see Residency letter no 4376 dt 1-7-07 (Gen 16-9-1)

SUBJECT.

File

of the Government of India referred to in your letter and will be glad to adopt the same.

I have etc

CSB

For Secretary.

Draft.
V.S.
14-8-07

List of enclosures

Copied by

Examined by

GPB—3,000—1-3-07